

Message Text

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53

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 EA-04 ADP-00 ORM-01 SR-02 IO-09 SS-07 PM-03

INR-09 /095 W

----- 020511

R 101150 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8492

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

CIA WASHDC

USIA WASHDC

WHITEHOUSE

USDEL FRANCE

CINCPAC

JCS

UNCLAS FINAL TWO SECTIONS SAIGON 03890

3. RETURN TO KONTUM. NEARLY 440 KONTUM PROVINCE WAR

VICTIMS WHO HAD BEEN TAKING REFUGE IN PLEIKU FOR THE PAST NINE OR TEN MONTHS BOARDED TRUCKS TO RETURN TO KONTUM ON MARCH 7. AN ADDITIONAL 600 LEFT PLEIKU MARCH 8. THEY ARE THE FIRST OF 6,900 PEOPLE SCHEDULED TO MAKE THE RETURN TRIP SOON. MOST ARE MONTAGNARDS, AND MOST HAVE BEEN LIVING IN THE PHAM PHU QUOC SITE (A FORMER POW CAMP) IN PLEIKU. BECAUSE THEY WERE ORIGINALLY FROM NORTHERN KONTUM, WHICH REMAINS INSECURE, THE REFUGEES CANNOT YET RETURN HOME. THEY WILL GO TO KONTUM'S NGOK LONG SITE (FORMERLY CALLED MARY LOU CAMP).

4. LDHB SETTLEMENT. SOME 2,700 FORMER REFUGEES

FROM QUANG NGAI PROVINCE IN CG 1 TRAVELED ON USAF C-130S MARCH 4, 5, AND 6 TO RELOCATE IN CG 3 UNDER THE SPONSORSHIP OF THE LAND DEVELOPMENT AND HAMLET BUILDING PROGRAM. ABOUT 2,090 JOINED THE ORIGINAL LDHB SETTLEMENT AT SUOI NGHE IN PHUOC TUY PROVINCE, WHILE 650 ENTERED THE NEW BINH TUY PROVINCE SITE OF BA GIENG, WHICH RECEIVED ITS FIRST SETTLERS IN MID-
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FEBRUARY.

5. WAR VETERANS CASELOAD. AT THE END OF

FEBRUARY, ALMOST 900,000 PEOPLE WERE ON THE ACTIVE
CASELOAD AND RECEIVING BENEFITS FROM THE MINISTRY OF
WAR VETERANS, UP MORE THAN 23,000 FROM THE PREVIOUS
MONTH. NEW TOTALS, BY CATEGORY OF RECIPIENT ARE:

DISABLED VETERANS	84,029
WIDOWS	128,524
DEPENDENT PARENTS	133,107
WARDS	352,332
ORPHANS	161,764
RETIREMENTS, 6 PERCENT	
REIMB. ADJ., ETC.	38,228

TOTAL 897,984

BUNKER

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SAIGON03890
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730325/aaaahlrz.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AID
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: willialc
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 02 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02-Nov-2001 by hagers>; APPROVED <06-Feb-2002 by willialc>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> wfs 971118
Subject: N/A
TAGS: PREF, VM, n/a
To: AID
CIA WASHDC
CINCPAC
FRANCE
JCS
SECSTATE WASHDC
USIA

WASHDC

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005